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April 21, 1999

Mr. William K. Hubbard
Dockets & Management Branch (HFA - 305)
Food & Drug Administration
5630 fishers Lane, Rm. 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Sir:

As a raw oyster lover, it has come to my attention that a group, namely The Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSP), has decided that they have the sole wisdom and intelligence to do away with one of my favorite foods - namely raw shellfish. I have been enjoying this delicacy for most of my seventy years and sincerely hope to continue. I have eaten raw shellfish throughout the United States and Europe and have NEVER been sick.

I further understand that there isn't any valid scientific bases for the CSP recommendation that all shell fish be killed before being sold to the public. They apparently don't even know what level of bacteria can cause sickness.

Besides depriving fish lovers, like my self, of a favorite food, CSP is apparently willing to force the entire raw shellfish industry out of business. What a selfish disaster.

Please let's not get into another situation that will cause irreparable economic and enjoyment harm, only to learn afterwards that the basic premise was flawed and the drastic action taken was not necessary.

Approach your regulations in a logical way and follow the suggestions of the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference for a basic study to be commenced.

Thank you for your consideration.

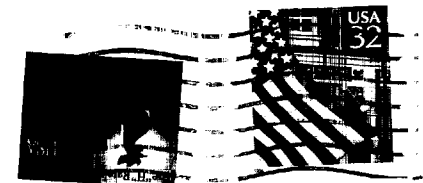
Sincerely,


J. Robert Murdoch

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